communal violence in several parts of Kashmir Valley since February, 1986; and

(b) what action has been taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the State Government, a total of 765 persons have been arrested in connection with recent disturbances in the State.

Indians to be rendered Stateless on transfer of Hongkong to China

309. SHRI J.P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people of Indian community are likely to be rendered Stateless in Hongkong after its transfer to China in 1997;

(b) if so, what is the number of such members of the Indian community; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government of India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) According to the United Kingdom Government Memorandum attached to the Sino-UK Agreement on Hongkong, all persons who are British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTCs) in Hongkong, will cease to be BDTCs, with effect from 1st July, 1997 when China resumes sovereignty over Hongkong. These persons will, thereafter, be entitled to use separate passports which will be issued by the UK Government, and does not give them the right of abode in the UK. All persons of Indian origin in Hongkong, who are currently BDTCs will be affected by these regulations

(b) The number of persons of Indian origin who presently hold British Dependent Territories Citizenship in Hongkong is approximately 4,400.

(c) The Government of India are of the view that the UK Government have the basic responsibility towards the BDTCs of Indian origin in Hongkong and that the United Kingdom should take all necessary steps to ensure that this category of persons is not rendered Stateless after July 1, 1997. The Government of India are in close touch with the UK Government on this matter.

310 [*Transferred to the 29th April*, 1986.]

Construction of F-16 assembly Unit in Turkey by U.S.

311. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the United States has cleared the construction of an F-16 fighter aircraft assembly lines in Turkey;

(b) whether the plant is likely to be used for servicing of Pakistan's F-16 fighter aircraft ;

(c) whether the military strength of Pakistan is likely to be boosted as a result of construction of such a plant; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to face the increased threat of Pakistan-US tie-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(b) and (c) Government have no authoritative information at present.

(d) Government are maintaining a close watch over these developments and are taking all necessary steps to protect the country's security.

Reaction of the U.K. Foreign Secretary on the extradition treaty

312. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what was the reaction of the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the question of Draft Extradition Treaty and the U.K. Government's patronage to the so-called Head of Government of Khalistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): The U.K. Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs stated that the British Government is studying the Indian Draft Extradition Treaty, and gave the assurance that action will be taken to curb the activities of the so-called "Khalistanis".

Persons caught while crossing the Indo-Pak Border

313. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of people who have been apprehended while crossing from Pakistan to India and vice versa during the last six months;

(b) how many of them were apprehended by the BSF;

(c) how many of them were suspected to be indulging in smuggling and how many of them were suspected known terrorists; and

(d) what are the details of weapons and ammunition seized from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) The number of persons apprehended by the BSF while crossing from Pakistan to India and vice versa during the period from 1st October, 1985 to 31st March, 1986 was 8,547.

(c) 401 persons were suspected to be indulging in illegal activities.

(d) 7 pistols, 2 guns, 3 rifles, 157 live rounds and ammunition and 32 employ cartridges were seized from them.

Radiation hazards in the area around Bharat Electronics Limited Unit in Ghaziabad

314. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent press reports that the area around Ghaziabad, where a unit of Bharat Electronics Limited is located, is subject to radiation hazards; and

(b) whether any investigations have been made in this regard and remedial steps taken for the safety of the people residing in the locality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter has been looked into both by the Government and the Company. As a measure of caution experts from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay have carried out measurement and tests on the levels of X-ray and microwave radiations at the request of BEL. The measurements have confirmed that the levels are far below the internationally acceptable safe limits. There is therefore no safety hazards to the people residing in the locality.